

### **Amendments to the Claims**

**1. (Original)** A process of treating powder material by making it ride on gaseous current to move it within a powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21), wherein

a wall surface (21) against which the powder material collides is heated to not less than approximately a temperature at which the powder material commences to soften and to a temperature lower than a melting temperature of the powder material.

**2. (Original)** The process of treating powder material as set forth in claim 1, wherein the powder material has a tensile strength of not less than about 0.5 MPa.

**3. (Currently amended)** The process of treating powder material as set forth in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the powder material commences to soften at a temperature of not more than about 100 degrees C.

**4. (Original)** The process of treating powder material as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least 98 wt% of the powder material thrown into the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) is recovered as the powder material treated by this powder-material treating apparatus.

**5. (Original)** The process of treating powder material as set forth in claim 4, wherein at least 98 wt% of the powder material thrown into the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) is recovered as the treated powder material having about the same degree of crystallization as that of the pre-treated powder material.

**6. (Original)** The process of treating powder material as set forth in claim 4, wherein at least 98 wt% of the powder material thrown into the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) is recovered as the treated powder material having about the same average particle diameter as that of the pre-treated powder material.

7. **(Currently amended)** The process of treating powder material as set forth in ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein the powder material is a crystalline organic compound of any one of the pharmaceutical, food and cosmetic.

8. **(Currently amended)** The process of treating powder material as set forth in ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) is any one of the powder-material crushing apparatus, powder-material transportation apparatus, powder-material collection apparatus and powder-material drying apparatus.

9. **(Original)** An apparatus for treating powder material which makes the powder material ride on gaseous current to move it, wherein a heating means (13, 29) is provided along a wall surface (12) against which the powder material collides so as to heat the wall surface (12) to not less than approximately a temperature at which the powder material commences to soften and to a temperature lower than a melting temperature of the powder material.

10. **(Original)** The apparatus for treating powder material as set forth in claim 9, wherein the heating means (13, 29) is formed from a jacket or a piping passage to which a heating medium is supplied.

11. **(Currently amended)** The apparatus for treating powder material as set forth in claim 9 ~~or 10~~, wherein the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) is any one of the powder-material crushing apparatus, powder-material transportation apparatus, powder-material collection apparatus and powder-material drying apparatus.

12. **(Original)** A method of producing powder material accompanied by a procedure for making the powder material ride on gaseous current to move it within a powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21), wherein

a wall surface that opposes to a powder-material moving space within the powder-material treating apparatus (1, 21) has a portion, to which the powder material easily adheres while it is being treated, heated to not less than approximately a temperature at

which the powder material commences to soften and to a temperature lower than a melting temperature of the powder material, and

pre-treated powder material is introduced into this powder-material moving space to make it ride on gaseous current to move it within this powder-material moving space.

**13. (Original)** The method of producing powder material as set forth in claim 12, which produces from pre-treated powder material of a crystalline powder material, a powder material having a degree of crystallization reduced at a ratio within 2.5% from that of the pre-treated crystalline powder material, by the movement of the powder material within the powder-material moving space.

**14. (Original)** The method of producing powder material as set forth in claim 12, which produces powder material having the content of total analogous substances and impurities increased at a ratio of less than 0.2 wt% when compared with the pre-treated powder material, by the movement of the powder material within the powder-material moving space.

**15. (Original)** The method of producing powder material as set forth in claim 12, which produces powder material having the average particle diameter increased at a ratio within 1.5 wt% when compared with that of the pre-treated powder material, by the movement of the powder material within the powder-material moving space.